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HISTORIC
WESLEYAN

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HISTORIC WESLEYAN

*SHE who was first in the
field must be foremost
in the education and spiritual
uplift of humanity.*

HISTORIC WESLEYAN

1836

1924





William F. Quillian
President of Wesleyan College

10/4/1933

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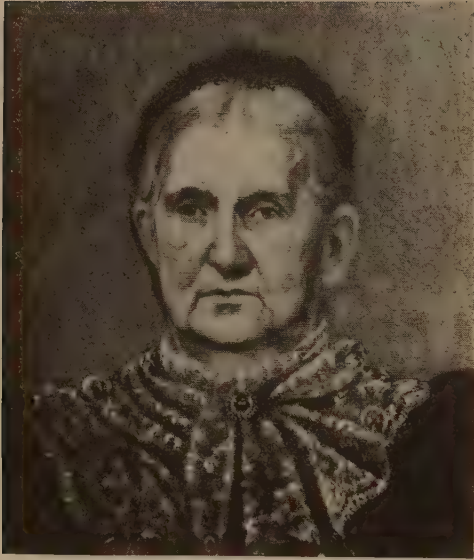


FORTH from these historic old halls, into the far corners of the world, have gone our mothers, sisters and daughters, our friends and classmates, carrying with them the enduring qualities of refinement and culture—the heritage of every Wesleyan girl.

Doubtless each holds dear the cherished memories of her Alma Mater. Doubtless, too, her ambitions and hopes are shared by all; but time and distance, working side by side, have effaced the vivid picture and dimmed for many the true significance of “The College on the Hill.”

That every friend and daughter of Wesleyan, however far afield, may glimpse again in retrospect those days forever gone, that they may share her problems and visualize her plans for the future, this booklet has been prepared. Its pages are for those who long to revive the friendships of their girlhood, for those who have faith in the inherent ideals of Wesleyan—those who have helped to make her permanent, abiding and successful.





*Mrs. William S. Benson,
the first woman to receive
a college degree*

The Mother of Woman's Colleges

JUST eighty-eight years ago the first chartered woman's college in the world to exercise its prerogative and confer a degree upon young women became a reality. The founding of the College arose from the plans and proposals of Elijah Sinclair.

In the General Assembly of Georgia in 1825, Duncan G. Campbell of Wilkes County introduced the first bill ever offered in a legislative body for the establishment of a college for women, but it failed of passage. Ten years later his son-in-law, Colonel Daniel Candler, the uncle of the chief founders and patrons of Emory University, delivered a magnificent address at the University of Georgia in which he championed the higher education of women. Wesleyan College was the answer to his stirring appeal.

At the instance of Georgia Methodists the General Assembly granted the charters of Emory College at Oxford and the Georgia Female College at Macon.

Many were the hours of financial doubt that assailed the College in its infancy, and had it not been for such generous philanthropists, such men of vision, as Lovick Pierce, James A. Everett, Samuel Anthony, William H. Ellison, and later, George I. Seney, Wesleyan College might never have lived to undertake its conscious obligation to society. In their princely service to humanity and education these men literally knew "no North, no South, no East, no West."

When the first Wesleyan bell sounded the open door of higher education for women, there was no other bell carrying the same message; now such bells ring out from sea to sea.



Original building, Wesleyan Female College

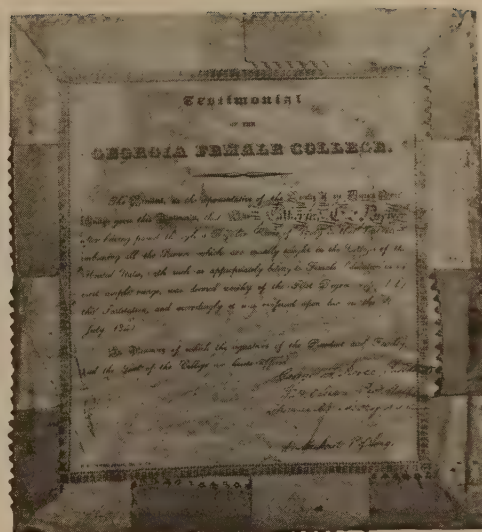
A Bold Adventure in the Soul of Woman

ON THE first day of January, 1839, two years after its organization, the little College crowning Encampment Hill, since known as College Hill, threw open its doors for the reception of students. Sixty-nine enrolled the first day. It was a bold adventure in the soul of woman. Dr. George F. Pierce, afterward the renowned Bishop Pierce, became the first president of the Georgia Female College. He later served Emory University in the same capacity.

In the spring of 1840, eleven young women received the bachelor's degree, having completed a course of study equal in extent and thoroughness to that of the leading institutions for men. The first of the young ladies to receive her diploma was Miss Catherine E. Brewer, later the mother of Admiral William S. Benson, who holds the distinction of being the first woman in the world to receive from a woman's college the A. B. degree.

In 1843 the building was sold for a balance due the contractor but was bought in by Dr. William H. Ellison, then president, for the Methodist Church, whose property it then became and to which it has ever since belonged. A new charter was then granted, the name being changed to Wesleyan Female College.

Wesleyan as it serves today has retained all that is best in the ideals of the old South with all that is glorious in the purposes of the new. It is the charm of this grace and the equipment of this power that places Wesleyan women in the very forefront of those that serve.



*The first diploma
ever granted to
a woman*



A graduating class of the early eighties



*Like a beacon,
overlooking
the entire
city*

A Rich and Ennobling Influence

THE home of old Wesleyan in 1836 was a small frontier town, only thirteen years old at the time the College was chartered. Then there were no railroad connections and the population did not exceed 4,000, though the surrounding country abounded in large plantations. It was, however, a rather wealthy district and the quiet life of the leading people of that time fostered a taste for reading, literature and thought.

Macon proved to be an ideal location for the College. In natural beauty, in its salubrious climate and in the general culture of its leading people the little city offered to this notable enterprise a most congenial atmosphere.

Standing as it does solidly and beautifully on an eminence overlooking the entire city, the College is like a beacon, ever pointing the way to the higher things. Every influence is exerted to retain all the gentleness and modesty of the Old South and at the same time offer to the young women of today the best of modern educational opportunities.



*Sitting Room One,
a social rendezvous*



THROUGHOUT its entire history Wesleyan has been known as a center of culture.

A brilliant preacher, after spending several days at Wesleyan, said: "It is the most delightful and sacred environment in which I have ever been privileged to visit." And one of the College's most generous benefactors once, when asked if he had any suggestions to make in regard to the building, replied: "No, I only want you to construct a building which will make a pleasant and delightful home for the daughters of the South." These Christian men laid great emphasis upon the value of the soul.

In Wesleyan's eighty-eight years, more than 3,000 graduates and hundreds of other matriculates have received the blessing of years of culture in this time-honored institution.

Wesleyan girls have ever been the highest exponents of that intellectual strength, broad scholarship and noble Christian character which permeates the College and which is destined to exert even a greater influence in the future.

A Delightful Home





Front entrance of the Chapel



WESLEYAN students, though surrounded by a religious atmosphere, are not in any sense subject to any denominational influence. Students of all beliefs are in attendance and enjoy the largest liberty in their faith and practice.

Wesleyan belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The members of its Board of Trustees are subject to confirmation by the North and South Georgia and the Florida Conferences. The charter has been so amended that three graduates of the College will be elected by the Alumnae Association to membership on the Board of Trustees at the approaching commencement.

In every other respect Wesleyan is undenominational. Students attend church of their own choice on Sunday and daughters of preachers of any denomination are given full tuition. At Wesleyan the Christian religion is commended by precept and example. It is an influence, appealing, restful and strong, without the consciousness of obligation.

*An Education
Naturally
and Normally
Religious*





The Department of Music

THE Wesleyan Conservatory of Music, under the present system, functions as a department of the College proper, which prescribes its entrance requirements and supervises the non-musical part of the curriculum of the Conservatory students.

The curriculum of the Conservatory, even under the present handicap, has been said by a noted critic to be the best of any conservatory of music in the South.

Two hundred and seventy-five students are enrolled in the department this year, and every one of them has the opportunity of studying with a specialist, for there are no assistant teachers. There are fifty-two pianos available to the students for practice, besides the second largest pipe organ in the South; all of which are kept in excellent repair.

The major divisions of the Conservatory curriculum include piano, violin, organ and voice, and in each of these great interest is shown by the student body, who have organized a well-trained chorus, a student orchestra and a splendid glee club.



*The second
largest pipe organ
in the South*



IT is the hope of the College administration to develop at Wesleyan the greatest school of music in the South and there is ample reason to believe that it can be done.

At present, hundreds of students who wish to attend the Conservatory are turned away; due largely to lack of room and to the academic requirements of the entrance board of the College proper, which supervises the non-musical part of the curriculum of the Conservatory students. When the Conservatory and College of Liberal Arts are placed in separate buildings, as is now planned, the serious handicap to both will have been removed.

Drawing on the territory of Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, Louisiana, Tennessee and Alabama, Professor Maerz, Director of the Conservatory of Music, is convinced that there will be 500 applicants as soon as they can be accommodated, and that in five years there will be an enrollment of 500 in the Conservatory.

Under such conditions the Conservatory may offer opportunities equal to those of the New England Conservatory of Music, the Cincinnati and Chicago Conservatories of Music and the best New York conservatories.

The Promise of a Great Conservatory



*Musical instruments
form an important part
of the girl's luggage*



On the Campus

THE daily life of the student body is indicative of the type of girl the College is training. One has but to walk through the historic old buildings or stroll about the small but picturesque campus, to realize that here, engaged in their various activities, are girls that come from the best homes in the country.

With a campus laid off in lawns, tennis courts, basket ball grounds and a hockey field there is some provision for every girl to be engaged in sports the year round. The present campus, however, is inadequate for the students now enrolled at Wesleyan and could in no possible way be made to accommodate the great increase in students that Wesleyan must prepare to meet.

The greatest interest and enthusiasm is evinced by the whole student body in all inter-class meets and championship competitions, which have brought into their daily life a fine spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie that permeates the whole College.





STUDENT life on the campus, however, is not alone devoted to sports and kindred interests, for one very definite aim of all education is to develop personality and individuality among the students.

These qualities are created quite as much by means of social organizations and literary enterprises as by the more strenuous participation in games.

The Golden Heart, Round Table, Dramatic Club and Gator Club are but a few that create fellowship. The Y.W.C.A., the Student Government Association and Athletic Association offer a wider scope for service and executive ability; particularly is this true of the Y.W.C.A., which embraces practically the entire student body.

The *Wesleyan*, the weekly *Watch Tower*, *The Jester* and the *Veterropt*, which is the "Annual," afford unique and valuable opportunities for the exercise of talents.

Thus the students build life-long friendships and a gentler culture than is gained by the purely intellectual pursuits.

Student Life





The Crow's Nest



ONE of the most noteworthy ideals in Wesleyan's education is the spirit of service. As the emblem of her love for humanity in all lands, there are embroidered on her service flag 36 stars, representing Wesleyan daughters who are organizing education, instilling courage and spreading hope in China, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Cuba, India and Brazil.

Not only have representatives of Wesleyan gone into the East and into Latin America, but representatives of these countries have come to her and carried away with them a portion of her great Christian faith.

Out of the halls of Wesleyan have gone more than three thousand graduates, of whom there are two physicians, two lawyers, ten librarians, ten journalists, forty missionaries, three hundred and twenty-nine teachers and two thousand two hundred and fifty home builders. Seventy per cent. of the present student body have already chosen vocations. Practically half of the senior class and 46 per cent. of the entire student body intend to teach.

*Wesleyan's
Service is
Universal*





A test in the biology laboratory

*For the
Development of
Individuality*

STARTING as an experiment in education, Wesleyan today offers standard courses leading to the A. B. degree.

For several years Wesleyan has been a member of The Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in the Southern States and of the American Association of University Women. Graduates of the College are admitted to the best universities for graduate work without examination.

A library of more than 10,000 well selected volumes is one of the great assets of the College.

But in addition to the literary and scientific advantages, there has been built up at Wesleyan a School of Fine Arts and a Department of Expression. Splendid courses are offered in drawing, painting and in ceramic art. The "Spoken Word" is given an important place in the curriculum.

The master artists of the world regularly visit the College and thus afford students of artistic talent and ambition the benefit of hearing them in concerts, lectures and entertainments.

But due to lack of sufficient space and accommodations, over 300 applicants yearly are denied this splendid educational service.



Getting out an edition of the Macon Telegraph

THE students who are interested in journalism are offered unique opportunities for practical experience. They benefit not only by the regular course lectures but are privileged to hear addresses by some of the most successful journalists in the country. From the very beginning they are trained in painstaking habits of revision, in constructive criticism and in gathering and preparing news stories.

The beginners in the course are required to edit and publish a make-believe newspaper, while the advanced class turns out one entire issue of the *Macon Telegraph*.

To encourage and develop the vital quality of home-maker, the College instituted a course in home economics.

During the year the girls are required to give a sufficient number of luncheons, dinners, teas and receptions to enable every member of the last year class to officiate at some one event.

The semi-annual exhibitions of the work of the sewing classes, which are a division of the Domestic Art Department, display excellent workmanship, selection and construction of clothing.

*Departments of
Journalism and
Home Economics*



The Palette and Brush Club—Showing special younger students in attendance

The Faculty

FROM its very beginning the authorities of Wesleyan College have sought to bring together the most efficient teachers and have been remarkably successful in securing those who combine high scholarship with nobility of character.

The first president, George F. Pierce, was a man of rare gifts and gave to the College a tone and an atmosphere which has characterized it through all succeeding years. Great teachers and leaders like William H. Ellison, E. H. Myers, William C. Bass and others are found among those who gave their lives to the College in the years of the past. Mrs. John B. Cobb and Mrs. M. M. Burks were for many years teachers of English and gave to thousands of young women the impress of their strong, cultured womanhood.

Today the College has 50 teachers and officials and the faculty is one of the strongest in the South. Within the past three years the number of teachers has been doubled, several professors holding the Ph.D. degree having been added. Wesleyan is a member of The Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in the Southern States and of the American Association of University Women.

With the adoption of quality credits, automatic exclusion and the introduction of the honor grades and honor society, the work being done compares most favorably with that of the strongest colleges in the South.

WESLEYAN aims through her Department of Physical Education to give to the students training that will enable them to become strong and healthy and to acquire greater activity and grace of motion. Open to every student at Wesleyan are the usual forms of athletics, such as basket ball, tennis, baseball, hockey, volley ball, track and field sports.

The appearance of the Wesleyan student body in the parade at the Macon Centennial was perhaps the most gratifying testimony of the active interest taken in athletics by the student body, whose carriage, grace and rhythm in marching excelled all other groups and won for Wesleyan "The Grand Prize."

It is significant of the care taken of the students, that in nineteen years, with a boarding student body averaging over four hundred, there has never been a broken bone, nor a sprain of any kind requiring a plaster cast or splints; yet the most active and competitive games are held the year round.

A well equipped infirmary and a thoroughly competent matron are at all times prepared to care for any accidents which may occur as well as for any case of illness.

The Acquirement of Health, Posture and Carriage



Wesleyan girls proclaiming the queen at the Centennial



Rivoli's woodland campus at dusk



SUCH has been Wesleyan's contribution to the progress of civilization; but all that has been done and all that Wesleyan is doing today, is in no way proportionate to the greater opportunity for service which is rightly her heritage.

Wesleyan has no indebtedness and could carry on as she is now doing for some years to come; but that means turning away more than 300 students a year; it means limiting the advantages Wesleyan should offer to the daughters of the South and of the country at large; it means stifling its service to the Church, the State and the Nation.

The buildings where the College is now housed are wholly inadequate for a growing institution. The laboratories, library, dining room and gymnasium are all overcrowded. The present Conservatory of Music is placed at a great disadvantage by the academic schedule of the College, and its scope is limited. This is also true of the School of Fine Arts, while the College of Liberal Arts is likewise handicapped.

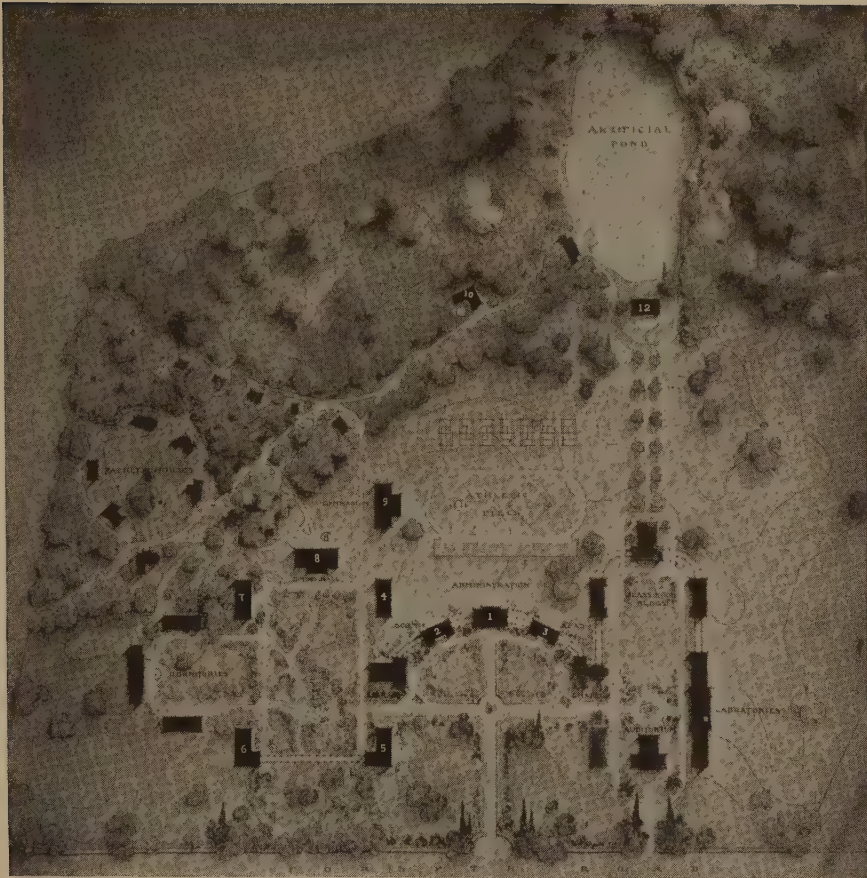
At Rivoli, five miles from Macon, on the Dixie Highway of Georgia and the Central Railway leading to Atlanta, Wesleyan owns 132 acres of beautiful land, an ideal campus, formerly the property of Mr. J. A. Flourney. Here, among soft shrubbery, smooth green lawns and woodland, interwoven with miniature lakes and flowers—is planned "The Greater Wesleyan."

Here are unexcelled advantages for the highest culture and the best physical development. Here the voice of God speaking through nature will call the splendid daughters of Wesleyan to the loftiest thinking, the noblest aspirations and the most unselfish service.

An Unfulfilled Mission



The Proposed Greater Wesleyan



Proposed Layout of Grounds and Buildings

1. Administration Building 2. Academy Class Room Building 3. Science Building 4-5-6-7. Dormitories
8. Dining Hall 9. Gymnasium 10. Power House and Laundry 11. Athletic Fields 12. Shakespearean Gardens

UPON the beautiful and spacious campus recently purchased the Greater Wesleyan will be erected. The plan of the architect provides for the early construction of four dormitories, to be grouped around the beautiful lawns, the center of which is the Japanese Lake. The Library building will be within the great semi-circle of buildings and will be near the dormitories so that it will be easy of access at all hours. The dining hall will be so located as to overlook the lawns in the front and the spacious woods in the rear.

The Administration building, located on the crest of a beautiful hill about 600 feet from the entrance, will be the central building of the semi-circle and the center of the entire group. A language building and a science hall will be erected in the semi-circle. The gymnasium and swimming pool building will be near the dormitories in the rear of the buildings. The plant will be erected for the accommodation of five hundred students, and other buildings will be added as the program of the College is developed.

The athletic field, the golf course, the Shakespearean Garden and the beautiful lake will make a large contribution to the health and happiness of the students.



Rolling lawns, pine trees and shrubs—Rivoli

*Bishop Ainsworth,
President,
Board of Trustees*



THE plan of the Greater Wesleyan is to move the College of Liberal Arts to the new site and to leave the present buildings and grounds to the Conservatory of Music and the School of Fine Arts; for it is more desirable that these departments remain within the city limits.

The Greater Wesleyan will train a constantly increasing number of efficient workers for home and mission fields. It will enable young women to receive the highest education in liberal arts and fine arts at a minimum cost. It will attract students from all sections of the nation and from foreign countries.

It is estimated that within five years after the College of Liberal Arts has been moved to Rivoli, there will be enrolled some 1,000 students and 500 in the Conservatory in the city.

The plan when carried out will cause Wesleyan to be recognized not only as the oldest college for women, but as one of the leading colleges in the entire South.

The Greater Wesleyan contemplates two magnificent institutions working together for a greater Georgia and a far greater educational program.

*A Far
Greater
Educational
Program*



WESLEYAN today is facing her greatest opportunity. If properly supported she will meet the demands which modern civilization makes upon its colleges.

The urgent need is for funds with which to build an adequate plant to house this splendid educational program.

To construct and equip the necessary buildings will require \$1,050,000 as a minimum, and it is to her daughters and friends that the College must look for assistance in this great undertaking.

The buildings most urgently needed are:

An Administration Building to cost.	\$150,000
Four dormitories	" "	400,000
A Science Hall	" "	75,000
A Language Hall	" "	75,000
A Dining Hall and kitchen	" "	75,000
Gymnasium	" "	75,000
Library	" "	75,000
Chapel	" "	75,000
Heating Plant	" "	50,000
Total		\$1,050,000

It is expected that those who love Wesleyan and are interested in her destiny will contribute generously of their time and means to build this great cultural center.

Any sum of money given to this great Christian undertaking will be an investment in life, worthy of the high ideals and broad vision which were responsible for the Wesleyan of today. A gift to Wesleyan is a gift to humanity.

THE brave old College has blazed the way for other institutions and is today the proud mother of them all. Let us see to it that the Old Mother does not suffer in her hour of need.

Let us quickly provide these buildings, equip them for the most modern educational work and give to our beloved Wesleyan the glorious privilege of an ever-enlarging service to the coming generations.





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